

Elizabeth Crawford Oral Testimony in Support of SB 698: Story of a newborn

Chair Monnes Anderson, Vice-Chair Linthicum, and members of the committee. Thank you for allowing me to testify today in support of Senate Bill 698. My name is Liza Crawford and I am a nursing student at Oregon Health and Science University in Portland. I am here today as an independent citizen to strongly urge your vote in support of this bill.

I am going to share the story of a E., a young Karen refugee woman and her baby who my fellow I-CAN nursing students have come to know. Her photo is number X on the screen and she asked us to share her story with you.

E spent 20 of her 25 years in a refugee camp in Thailand before coming to the United States a year and a half ago. E. is a very good mom and is adjusting to life in the United States. But she cannot yet read the English labels on prescription containers. She was given 2 medications to bring home after delivering her baby. She was very afraid of giving any medication to her newborn as she had no idea what they were or how to give them.

I ask you to Imagine how stressful and potentially dangerous it is for a new mom to be unable to read the medication instructions for her young baby's prescription.

Please vote in support of SB 698 to protect the health of vulnerable patients, like this young baby.

Thank you again to the members of the committee for allowing me to speak here today.